

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9320
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
KACINSO QUARRY HEIGHTS, CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 SAN SALVADOR 4368

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, ES
SAGJ: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT: JULY 1978

SUMMARY. DURING JULY, REPRESENTATIVES OF AFL-CIO AND HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS VISITED EL SALVADOR. ROMERO ADMINISTRATION, DUE TO ITS FAILURE TO RESOLVE MATSUMOTO AND OTHER KIDNAPPING CASES AND TO PREVENT ISOLATED TERRORIST ACTS, CONTINUED TO PROJECT AN IMAGE OF BEING INCAPABLE OF ENSURING STABILITY AND COMBATING TERRORISM. ITS PRESENTATION OF PLAN TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO SET UP GOES-RUN CORPORATION (COFINTA) TO BUY LAND TO DISTRIBUTE TO SMALL FARMERS WON THE PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE (ANEP), BUT FIRST REACTION OF SEVERAL MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION PARTIES TO THE PLAN WAS NOT FAVORABLE. RELATIONS BETWEEN GOES AND CATHOLIC CHURCH DETERIORATED FURTHER DUE TO SUCH INCIDENTS AS JULY 8 SEARCH BY SECURITY FORCES OF SAN SALVADOR RESIDENCE OF JESUIT PRIESTS, MANY OF WHOM ARE MEMBERS OF FACULTY OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
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(UCA). GOES RELATIONS WITH OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES SHOWED LITTLE, IF ANY, IMPROVEMENT DURING JULY. COMMUNIST-DOMINATED NATIONALIST DEMOCRATIC UNION (UDN) PRESENTED PETITION TO SUPREME COURT ALLEGING WILLFUL IGNORANCE ON PART OF JUDICIARY OF PHYSICAL MISTREATMENT OF PERSONS ARRESTED UNDER LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE OF PUBLIC ORDER. ACCOUNTS OF REPRESSIVE PRACTICES OF

SECURITY FORCES IN RURAL AREAS, PARTICULARLY IN DEPARTMENT OF MORAZAN, CAME IN DURING THE MONTH, MOSTLY IN THE FORM OF ADS APPEARING IN OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER "LA CRONICA". FINALLY, JULY HAD ITS SHARE OF LABOR TURMOIL, AS SEVERAL STRIKES WERE CALLED OR THREATENED, AND A CONFRONTATION OCCURRED BETWEEN MEMBERS OF TEACHERS ASSOCIATION "ANDES 21 DE JUNIO" AND SECURITY FORCES IN SAN SALVADOR ON JULY 28. END SUMMARY.

1. VISIT TO EL SALVADOR OF REPRESENTATIVES OF AFL-CIO AND HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS: DURING JULY, REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GROUPS VISITED EL SALVADOR. AFL-CIO GROUP WAS HERE JULY 17-20 TO LOOK INTO ALLEGATIONS OF GOES HARASSMENT OF UNION COMUNAL SALVADORENA (UCS) - SEE SAN SALVADOR 3816. GROUP MET WITH MEMBERS OF UCS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (CEN), GOES COMMISSION ON UCS MATTERS, AND WITH AMBASSADOR AND OTHER EMBOFFS, BUT DID NOT GET TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT ROMERO DUE TO WHAT ROMERO CONSIDERED THE "INSULTING AND DENIGRATING" TELEGRAM HE HAD RECEIVED FROM GEORGE MEANY PRIOR TO GROUPS VISIT (SAN SALVADOR 3569, 3626 AND 3798). CRESSIDA MCKEAN OF WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA (WOLA) VISITED EL SALVADOR FROM JULY 18-29, OSTENSIBLY TO LOOK INTO AID PROJECTS. SHE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO AMBASSADOR (SAN SALVADOR 3883), ACTING AID DIRECTOR, AND OTHER EMBOFFS. EMBASSY ARRANGED FOR DUTY OFFICER TO BE PRESENT AT AIRPORT WHEN CONFIDENTIAL

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SHE LEFT, DUE TO FEARS EXPRESSED ON HER PART THAT SHE MIGHT BE STOPPED FOR CARRYING OUT OF THE COUNTRY MATERIAL SHE HAD GATHERED ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS. FINALLY, DONALD FOX OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS VISITED EL SALVADOR JULY 20-24 TO LOOK INTO MATTERS PERTAINING TO LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE OF PUBLIC ORDER. HIS PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT, AS EXPRESSED IN HIS TALKS WITH POLITICAL OFFICER, WAS THAT LAW OF PUBLIC ORDER WAS NOT BAD "PER SE" BUT THAT IT WAS BEING APPLIED IN AN "OPPORESSIVE MANNER". HE ALSO STATED THAT HE HAD RUN INTO INSTANCES OF MALTREATMENT, BEFORE THEY ARE TURNED OVER TO COURTS, OF PERSONS ARRESTED UNDER THE LAW (SAN SALVADOR 3882).

2. GENERAL SITUATION: FAILURE BY GOES DURING JULY TO RESOLVE SUCH CASES AS THE MATSUMOTO KIDNAPPING OR TO PREVENT FURTHER ISOLATED TERRORIST ACTS, COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED AS NEGATIVE SIGNS FOR THE ROMERO ADMINISTRATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PEACEFUL PREVENTION BY SECURITY FORCES OF WIDESPREAD DISTURBANCES

ON JULY 30, IN THE FACE OF A WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY DRIVE BY THE POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY BLOC (BPR) AND SIMILAR ANTI-

GOES GROUPS, HELPED TO COUNTER SOMEWHAT THE IMAGE ACQUIRED BY THE ROMERO ADMINISTRATION OF BEING INCAPABLE OF ENSURING STABILITY. DURING JULY, PRESIDENT ROMERO CALLED FOR CONSULTATION WITH ALL POLITICAL PARTIES AND CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (UCA), OR GOES PLAN PRESENTED TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH "CORPORATION TO FINANCE ACQUISITION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS" (COFINTA), WHICH WOULD

REPORTEDLY SET AS ITS PRELIMINARY GOAL THE BUYING OF 100 THOUSAND "MANZANAS" TO DISTRIBUTE TO SMALL FARMERS. MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE (ANEP) CAME OUT IN FAVOR OF THE PLAN. PRELIMINARY REACTION BY SOME MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES WAS NOT FAVORABLE, WITH ONE OPPOSITION SPOKESMAN TELLING CONFIDENTIAL

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EMBOFF THAT COFINTA WAS "OF, BY, AND FOR ANEP".

3. CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS: RELATIONS BETWEEN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND GOES TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE DURING THE MONTH OF JULY. THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO SEARCH CONDUCTED BY SECURITY FORCES ON JULY 8 OF SAN SALVADOR RESIDENCE OF JESUIT PRIESTS (RESIDENCE IS HOME OF MANY JESUIT MEMBERS OF FACULTY OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY) - SEE SAN SALVADOR 3585. IN A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON JULY 10, THE SALVADORAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE JESUIT SOCIETY REAFFIRMED, DESPITE THE ACTION OF SECURITY FORCES, "OUR HUMBLE BUT UNSWERVING DECISION TO COMMIT OUR FORCES TO THE CAUSE OF A MORE JUST SOCIETY." IN HIS SERMONS DURING JULY, ARCHBISHOP ROMERO REFERRED TO THE "DISAPPEARANCE" OF EDUARDO ANTONIO ESPINOZA FIALLOS (SEE CHRONOLOGY), REPRESSIVE MEASURES BEING USED BY SECURITY FORCES IN SUCH RURAL AREAS AS EL PAISNAL, AND HIS HOPES FOR A HAPPY END TO THE SUFFERING OF FAMILIES OF KIDNAP VICTIMS SUCH AS MATSUMOTO. ON JULY 6, FOUR CATECHISTS WERE ARRESTED IN DEPARTMENT OF MORAZAN FOR POSSESSION OF "SUBVERSIVE" LITERATURE AND WERE TURNED OVER TO THE COURTS ON JULY 11. FINALLY, ON JULY 27, GOES SECURITY FORCES IN AN OUTPOURING OF PUBLICITY ANNOUNCED THE ALLEGED DISCOVERY OF AN EXTENSIVE SUBVERSIVE PLOT TO CAUSE LABOR AND OTHER UNREST, A PLOT IN WHICH THEY SAID ARCHBISHOP ROMERO WAS INVOLVED. IN HIS SERMON ON JULY 30, ROMERO VIGOROUSLY DENIED THE ACCUSATION, ADDING THAT "NEVERTHELESS, THIS OUTBURST OF PUBLICITY, BECAUSE OF ITS VERY MEDIOCRITY, IS AN INTERESTING EXAMPLE OF UNTRUTH AND SUPERFICIALITY."

4. GOES AND OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES: ON JULY 11,

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED NATIONALIST
DEMOCRATIC UNION (UDN) PRESENTED A PETITION TO THE
SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE ALLEGING THAT JUDGES HAVE
IGNORED THE TORTURE AND PHYSICAL MISTREATMENT OF PEOPLE,
BEFORE THEY ARE TURNED OVER TO THE COURTS,
ARRESTED UNDER THE LAW OF DEFENSE AN GUARANTEE OF
PUBLIC ORDER. ON JULY 15, MARIANELLA GARCIA VILLAS,
MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC
PARTY (PDC) AND LAWYER FOR MANY PERSONS ARRESTED UNDER
LAW OF PUBLIC ORDER, WAS DETAINED ALONG WITH THREE
TRAVELING COMPANIONS FOR SEVERAL HOURS BY THE NATIONAL
GUARD IN PERQUIN (DEPARTMENT OF MORAZZAN). GARCIA WAS ON
HER WAY TO INTERVIEW FAMILIES OF FOUR CATECHISTS
ARRESTED ON JULY 6 (SEE CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS) WHEN
HER CAR WAS STOPPED AND SEARCH BY NATIONAL GUARDSMEN
WHO QUESTIONED HER POSSESSION OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ON
PEOPLE ARRESTED UNDER LAW OF PUBLIC ORDER. GARCIA AND
HER COMPANIONS WERE SET FREE DURING EARLY MORNING HOURS
OF JULY 16. ON JULY 19, UDN DENOUNCED THE JULY 14
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ARREST OF METAPAN (DEPARTMENT OF SANTA ANA) OF ISRAEL
RIVAS AND ADAN GALDAMEZ, MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION OF

SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS (AES). ON JULY 24, JOSE NAPOLEON GONZALEZ, DIRECTOR OF OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER "LA CRONICA DEL PUEBLO", CATEGORICALLY DENIED A REPORT ORIGINATING IN THE NATIONAL GUARD THAT HIS NEWSPAPER WAS INVOLVED WITH ARMED FORCES OF THE NATIONAL RESISTANCE (FARN). FINALLY, ON JULY 27, THE UDN DENOUNCED THE JULY 26 ARREST IN SAAN MIGUEL AND

ALLEGED BEATING OF SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE UDN.

5. LABOR DISTURBANCES: JULY WAS ANOTHER BAD MONTH IN TERMS OF LABOR STRIFE. WORKERS AT TAPPAN (WHICH MAKES AIR CONDITIONERS AND IS 80 PERCENT U.S. OWNED) WENT ON STRIKE JULY 19 TO PROTEST FIRING OF WORKERS AND A LAWSUIT INITIATED AGAINST UNION; THEY DEMANDED THE DISMISSAL OF TWO TAPPAN EXECUTIVES, INCLUDING THE GENERAL MANAGER. ALSO ON JULY 19, WORKERS BELONGING TO FEDERATION OF UNIONS OF CONSTRUCTION, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER WORKERS (FESINCONSTRANS) WENT ON STRIKE AT SALVADORAN SUGAR REFINERY TO PROTEST COMPANY'S REFUSAL TO INSTITUTE SEVEN-HOUR WORKDAY. ON JULY 20, "LA CRONICA" REPORTED THAT JOSE PEDRO LOPEZ, SECRETARY OF CENTRAL ORGANIZATION OF CAMPESENO S(CCS) AND SECRETARY OF ACTS OF "CENTRAL DE TRABAJADORES SALVADORENOS" (CTS.), HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN COJUTEPEQUE ON JULY 19 BY NATIONAL POLICE; PAPER ALLEGED THAT POLICE HAD DENIED THAT HE WAS IN THEIR CUSTODY. ON JULY 31, STEWARDESSES ON SALVADORAN AIRLINE TACA WENT ON STRIKE.

LEFTIST TEACHERS ASSOCIATION "ANDES 21 DE JUNIO" WAS VERY MUCH IN THE NEWS DURING JULY. ON JULY 11, PEDRO BRAN, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND CONFIDENTIAL

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HECTOR RAMON GUARDADO, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF ANDES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SAN SALVADOR, WERE ARRESTED IN LA UNION ON THEIR RETURN FROM NICARAGUA. THEY WERE SET FREE ON JULY 14. ON JULY 28, A FIVE-MINUTE SHOOTOUT INVOLVING NATIONAL POLICE DETECTIVES, ONE OF WHOM WAS WOUNDED, OCCURRED NEAR "CASE BYL MAESTRO", ANDES HEAD-QUARTERS IN SAN SALVADOR. TWO DETECTIVES HAD REPORTEDLY TRIED TO CONFISCATE PROPAGANDA BEING CARRIED BY TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO ALLEGEDLY OPENED FIRE ON THEM AND FLED INTO "CASA DEL MAESTRO". IN PURSUIT OF INDIVIDUALS, POLICE ALLEGEDLY FOUND MIMEOGRAPH MACHINE, BPR FLAGS AND PROPAGANDA AND, AS A RESULT, ARRESTED AROUND THIRTY-ONE TEACHERS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS PRESENT IN BUILDING. OF THE THIRTY-ONE, POLICE SET FREE FIFTEEN AND TURNED SIXTEEN OVER TO COURTS. ON JULY 29, FOUR (INCLUDING PEDRO BRAN) OF THE SXV GEEN WERE BOUND OVER FOR TRIAL.

6. AGRARIAN DISTURBANCES: JULY 13 EDITION OF "CRONICA" CARRIED ONE AND ONE-HALF PAGE AD PAID FOR BY "POPULAR LEAGUES OF FEBRUARY 28" (LP-28). AD ALLEGED THAT GOES FORCES (PARTICULARLY A GROUP CALLED "COUNTER-GUERRILLA COMMAND") HAD BEEN CONDUCTING "CAMPAIGN OF TERROR" AGAINST ITS MEMBERSHIP IN DEPARTMENT OF MORAZAN. AD LISTED VARIOUS INSTANCES OF TORTURE, THEFT, AND "DISAPPEARANCES" THAT HAD OCCURRED UP TO JULY 13. JULY 25 EDITION OF "LA CRONICA" REPORTED THAT ELEODORO MENDOZA SANTOS AND ANICETNSMENDOZA SANTOS, BOTH MEMBERS OF FECCAS-UTC, HAD BEEN KILLED BY GOES SECURITY FORCES JULY 22 NEAR SAN PEDRO PERULPAN. SAME EDITION REPORTED THAT ELEMENTS OF ORDEN, OPERATING IN EL PAISNAL AREA, HAD ON JULY 21 TORTURED AND KILLED THREE MEMBERS OF FECCAS-UTC.

7. CHRONOLOGY OF OPPOSITION, TERRORIST AND SECURITY FORCES ACTIVITIES:

JULY 4 - SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE UPHELD THE CONFIDENTIAL

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INDICTMENT OF HUMBERTO GUZMAN, PREVIOUSLY ARRESTED IN SAN MIGUEL FOR ALLEGEDLY DISSEMINATING PFL PROPAGANDA.

JULY 4 - ADOLFO MCENTEE, BUSINESSMAN AND COFFEEGROWER WHO WAS KIDNAPPED JUNE 22 IN SANTA ANA (SAN SALVADOR 3372) WAS RELEASED UNHARMED NEAR HIS HOME IN SANTA ANA (SAN SALVADOR 3435). NO TERRORIST GROUP CLAIMED CREDIT FOR IT; RANSOM, IF ANY, UNDETERMINED.

JULY 10 - CAMARA SEGUNDA DE LO PENAL DISMISSED, FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE, THE CHARGES AGAINST STEFAN ANTONIO TURCIOS CORPEN, WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED ON MAY 23 FOR ALLEGEDLY DISSEMINATING PFL PROPAGANDA. THE CASE HAD DRAWN SOME ATTENTION BECAUSE POLICE ALLEGED THAT TURCIOS HAD STATED THAT PROPAGANDA FOR FECCAS-UTC WAS PRINTED BY CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (UCA), AN ALLEGATION VIGOROUSLY DENIED BY UCA (SAN SALVADOR A-56).

JULY 14 - AN OPEN LETTER (DATED JULY 13) DIRECTED TO PRESIDENT ROMERO BY PUALA CRUZ DIAZ OF SAN FRANCISCO GOTERA APPARENTLY WAS CAUSE OF BULLETIN ISSUED BY NATIONAL GUARD STATING THAT SIX CAMPESINOS (MENTIONED BY CRUZ AS HAVING "MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED" FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MORAZAN) HAD BEEN CAPTURED JULY 4-8 AND HAD BEEN TURNED OVER TO COURTS. AS OF JULY 15, TWO FORMAL DETENTIONS OF THE SIX (PLUS JUAN ANTONIO AYALA

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COMAYAGUA OF DEPARTMENT OF SAN VICENTE) HAD BEEN
DECREED BY CAMARA PRIMERA DE LO PENAL FOR ALLEGED
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES.

JULY 14 - DOROTEO GOMEZ ARIAS, AN ATTORNEY
RESIDENT IN SAN MIGUEL, ASKED FOR ASYLUM IN VENEZUELAN
EMBASSY, CLAIMING THAT HE WAS BEING POLITICALLY
PERSECUTED. POLICE HAD RAIDED HIS SAN MIGUEL OFFICE
JUNE 25 AND HAD CLAIMED TO FIND AUTOMATIC ARMS AND
SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA. GOMEZ TOOK OUT A FULL-PAGE
AD IN JULY 6 EDITION OF "LA CRONICA", CLAIMING THAT
ARMS HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY PLANTED BY POLICE AND THAT
HE WAS BEING HARASSED FOR BEING A MEMBER OF UNITED
POPULAR ACTION FRONT (FAPU).

JULY 14 - POLICE DETAINED TWENTY PEOPLE DURING
INVESTIGATION OF JULY 13 SLAYING OF A DETECTIVE IN
SAN MIGUEL. POLICE ALLEGED THAT ASSAILANTS RESPONSIBLE
FOR ACT WERE "TERRORISTS" ALTHOUGH NO TERRORIST GROUP HAD
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CLAIMED CREDIT FOR ACT.

JULY 14 - SECUNDINO CAMPOS ESCAMILLA AND ARMANDO
MENJIVAR, ARRESTED IN DEPARTMENT OF USULATAN AND ACCUSED

OF HAVING PLANNED TO KIDNAP PROMINENT COFFEEGROWER MARIA DELPECH, WERE TURNED OVER TO COURTS BY NATIONAL GUARD.

JULY 15 - OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER "LA CRONICA" PUBLISHED ARTICLE CLAIMING THAT THREE PRISONERS, INCLUDING ONE DETAINED FOR ALLEGED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES, HAD DISAPPEARED FROM PENITENTIARY IN SANTA ANA.

JULY 15 - IN THE SAN SALVADOR SUBURB OF MEJICANOS, INDIVIDUALS RIDING IN TRUCK THREW EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WHICH SCATTERED PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS IN A PUBLIC STREET.

JULY 18 - OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER "LA CRONICA" PUBLISHED ARTICLE STATING THAT GUATEMALAN AUTHORITIES WERE SEARCHING FOR MEMBERS OF RIGHTIST TERRORIST SQUAD COMPOSED OF SALVADORANS (BELONGING TO ORGANIZATION CALLED "MILITIA OF CHRIST THE KING") WHO HAD ALLEGEDLY ENTERED GUATEMALA TO FIGHT LEFTIST TERRORISTS THERE. GUATEMALAN AUTHORITIES REPORTEDLY HAD ARRESTED TWO MEMBERS OF SQUAD AND WERE SEARCHING FOR THE OTHER THREE.

JULY 18 - SECURITY FORCES RAIDED HOUSE IN SAN SALVADOR WHERE THEY REPORTEDLY FOUND LARGE QUANTITIES OF ARMS, SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA, MIMEOGRAPH MACHINES AND TYPEWRITERS.

JULY 18 - ALVARO EDGARDO CUELLAR MARTINEZ, SON OF PROMINENT BUSINESSMAN AND ECONOMIST, WAS KIDNAPPED AS HE WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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LEAVING HIS FIANCEE'S RESIDENCE IN SAN SALVADOR (SAN SALVADOR 3753). LEFTIST REVOLUTIONARY ARMY OF THE PEOPLE (ERP) WAS REPORTEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ACT. CUELLAR WAS RELEASED UNHARMED ON JULY 23 FOR AN ALLEGED RANSOM OF U.S. \$200,000. (SAN SALVADOR 3807).

JULY 19 - DR. EDUARDO ANTONIO ESINOZA FIALLOS (ALLEGED TO HAVE DISAPPEARED AROUND JUNE 17 - SAN SALVADOR 3934) AND NOE DE LOS SANTOS RAMOS TOMASINO, A WORKER, WERE TURNED OVER BY NATIONAL POLICE TO CAMARA SEGUNDA DE LO PENAL FOR THEIR ALLEGED MEMBERSHIP IN SUBVERSIVE VRGANIZATIONS. ON JULY 21, BOTH WERE SET FREE BY THE COURT.

JULY 20 - "LA CRONICA" REPORTED THAT LAZARO WILLAN MARTINEZ MONTENEGRO, AN OFFICIAL OF ANDES, WAS ARRESTED IN TOWN OF METAPAN.

JULY 20 - RELAY STATION OF NATIONAL RADIO OF EL SALVADOR, LOCATED IN DEPARTMENT OF MORAZAN, SUFFERED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE FROM FOUR HIGH-POWERED BOMBS THAT

EXPLODED EARLY MORNING JULY 19. THERE WERE NO INJURIES. MATERIAL DAMAGE INITIALLY ESTIMATED IN VICINITY OF U.S. \$80,000 (SAN SALVADOR 3754).

JULY 24 - DURING DAWN HOURS, EXPLOSION (CAUSED BY IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE SIMILAR TO CLAYMORE MINE) OCCURRED ON GROUNDS OF GUATEMALAN EMBASSY. NO INJURIES RESULTED BUT EXPLOSION CAUSED EXTENSIVE PROPERTY DAMAGE, INCLUDING GUATEMALAN AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE, (SAN SALVADOR

3804). ERP CLAIMED CREDIT FOR ACT, STATING ACT WAS IN PROTEST AGAINST GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA, PARTICULARLY FOR ITS ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO INCIDENTS IN PANZOS (SAN SALVADOR 3837).

JULY 25 - CAMARA SEGUNDA DE LO PENAL ORDERED THE FORMAL DETENTION OF TWO PERSONS AND ORDERED THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RELEASE OF ONE PERSON, ALL OF WHOM HAD BEEN ARRESTED JULY 21 BY POLICE IN SAN SALVADOR FOR ALLEGED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF ARMED FORCES OF NATIONAL RESISTANCE (FARN).

JULY 25 - POLICE REPORTED ARREST OF STUDENT, ROLANDO MATA, AT GUATEMALAN-SALVADORAN FRONTIER FOR ALLEGEDLY TRYING TO BRING "SUBVERSIVE" LITERATURE INTO THE COUNTRY.

JULY 25 - JOSE DAVID ABREGO ARTIGA WAS TURNED OVER TO COURTS FOR ALLEGED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF REVOLUTIONARY CAMPESINO MOVEMENT (MRC), FAPU AND FARN. ON JULY 26, "LA CRONICA" REPORTED THAT ABREGO'S MOTHER AND UNCLE HAD ALSO BEEN PICKED UP FOR SEEKING TO PREVENT ABREGO'S ARREST ON JULY 24. ON JULY 28, COURT DECREED ABREGO'S FORMAL DETENTION.

JULY 26 - IN SAN MIGUEL, POLICE ARRESTED MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY STUDENTS (AES) FOR ALLEGEDLY DISTRIBUTING SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA.

JULY 28 - CAMARA SEGUNDO DE LO PENAL ORDERED THAT THREE PERSONS, ARRESTED IN SANTA ANA MAY 19 FOR ALLEGEDLY SETTING OFF EXPLOSIVE DEVICES THAT SCATTERED PROPAGANDA (FPL, BPR) LEAFLETS, BE TURNED OVER FOR TRIAL.

JULY 29 - "LA CRONICA" REPORTED THE ARREST, WITHOUT CAUSE, IN SAN MIGUEL OF 17-YEAR OLD YUDITH ARACELY HERNANDEZ, SISTER OF LABOR LEADER KILLED IN 1972.

JULY 30 - DESPITE NUMEROUS INDICATIONS FROM
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OPPOSITION FORCES, JULY 30 (THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF
DEATHS OF SEVERAL STUDENTS IN SAN SALVADOR) PASSED
QUIETLY AND WITHOUT MAJOR INCIDENTS IN SAN SALVADOR
AS SECURITY FORCES SET UP ROADBLOCKS ON ALL MAJOR
ACCESS ROUTES INTO CITY AND REFUSED ENTRY TO BUSLOADS
OF CAMPESINOS (SAN SALVADOR 3954).

JULY 31 - DURING THE MORNING HOURS, "COMMITTEE OF
SOLIDARITY WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS AND DISAPPEARED
PERSONS" LEFT SAN SALVADOR OFFICE OF RED CROSS WHICH
IT HAD OCCUPIED SINCE MAY 17 (SAN SALVADOR 2462). IN
A COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED IN JULY 31 EDITION OF "LA
CRONICA" COMMITTEE THANKED THE "SALVADORAN COMMISSION
ON HUMAN RIGHTS" AND OTHERS FOR HAVING SUPPORTED ITS
CAUSE.
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Secure: OPEN
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